

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00659 190109Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 /043 W  
-----190809 104876/13

R 182237Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2521  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
USDEL MTN GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 0659

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EGEN, EINV, ETRD, ASEAN, CA  
SUBJ: ASEAN/CANADIAN ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS, FEB 3-4, 1977  
  
REF: A. STATE 30481; B. MANILA 2176

1. SUMMARY: EMBOFF DISCUSSED WITH R. L. ROGERS,  
DIRECTOR GENERAL, BUREAU OF ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS,  
EXTAFF, ASEAN/CANADIAN CONSULTATIONS IN MANILA. ROGERS  
CONFIRMED SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL (B) BUTTOOK MORE JAUNDICED  
VIEW OF OUTCOME OF TALKS. END SUMMARY.

2. R. L. ROGERS, WHO HEADED CANADIAN DELEGATION TO  
MANILA TALKS, TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE WAS "FRANK PUZZLED"  
BY WHAT ASEAN COUNTRIES HOPED TO ACCOMPLISH THROUGH  
SUCH DISCUSSIONS SINCE, IN HIS OPINION, ASEAN  
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PARTICIPANTS (EXCEPT FOR SINGAPORE) "HAD NOT DONE  
THEIR HOMEWORK." ROGERS THOUGHT THAT ASEAN/CANADIAN  
DISCUSSIONS, ALONG WITH THOSE CONDUCTED BY ASEAN  
WITH AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, WERE LARGELY  
DESIGNED TO PROMOTE ASEAN CREDIBILITY AS INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZATION.

3. CANADA'S ORIGINAL INTENTION IN AGREEING TO MEET WITH ASEAN DIRECTORS GENERAL WAS NOT, ACCORDING TO ROGERS, TO CONCENTRATE ON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS SINCE THESE COULD BE HANDLED BEST BY TECHNICAL EXPERTS. CANADA WANTED MORE BROADLY-BASED AGENDA, AND IT WASN'T UNTIL THREE DAYS BEFORE MEETING BEGAN THAT ASEAN PARTICIPANTS AGREED. HOWEVER, DURING MEETING, WHICH WAS UNSTRUCTURED, ROGERS SAID IT BECAME APPARENT THAT ASEAN COUNTRIES HAD NOT AGREED BEFOREHAND AMONG THEMSELVES WHAT RESULT THEY WANTED FROM DISCUSSIONS.

4. TO UNDERLINE LACK OF COORDINATION IN ASEAN, ROGERS POINTED OUT THAT PHILIPPINE SECRETARIAT HAD "SAT ON FISHERIES PROJECT FOR SIX MONTHS" AND NOT COMMUNICATED IT TO OTHERS.

5. CANADA HAD AGREED TO HOLD SECOND MEETING IN MAY, ROGERS SAID, BUT NO SPECIFIC SITE HAD BEEN DECIDED UPON ("PERHAPS VANCOUVER"). HE PROFESSED NOT TO KNOW WHAT WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT THIS MEETING ("CERTAINLY NOT THE SAME PROJECTS"), AND STATED THAT CANADA AND ASEAN MUST WORK OUT SUBSTANTIVE AGENDA "OR WE'LL ALL LOOK FOLLISH."  
DUEMLING

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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